the production of oilseeds in the country is increased to meet the entire edible oil requirements and self sufficiency in edible oils is likely to take some time.

Compensation to farmers for rise in cost of inputs

1219. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to compensate the farmers for rise in the cost of inputs during the growing season;

(b) whether any concrete proposals have been formulated in this regard; and

(c) what is the extent to which the farmers would be compensated; and by what time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) While the procurement/minimum support prices announced before the sowing season would provide for possible rise in the cost of production likely to occur during the cropping season, the procurement/minimum support prices would be adjusted in case the observed rise in input costs turns out to be higher than the anticipated rise.

(b) and (c) The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices would examine the changes in input costs and recommend adjustments in procurement/minimum support prices, if required, for appropriate consideration.

Report of Dr. Gopal Singh Panel on Minorities

1220. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in consideration of the report on minorities submitted by Dr. Gopal Singh in 1983;

(b) the level at which it is presently under consideration;

(c) by when the report is expected to be tabled in the Parliament with or without the Action Taken Memorandum; and

(d) the reasons for not accepting the recommendations and for not tabling the report so far?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) The Report on Minorities submitted by the High Power Panel on Minorities, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections headed by Dr. Gopal Singh is expected to be tabled in Parliament during the current session along with an explanatory note and a statement indicating the comments of the Government on the recommendations in the report.

Failure of NDDB in Stabilising Prices of Edible oils

1221. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the main reasons for the failure in stabilising edible oil prices is due to direct purchase of oils from the wholesale merchants, instead of from the farmers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the farmers could not get remunerative prices for their produce also as a result thereof; and

(c) if so, what remedial measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b) It is incorrect to say that NDDB has failed to stabilise prices of edible oils. Further it is not true that oil purchases have been made only from wholesale merchants. Under the Market Intervention Operation strategy adopted by NDDB as the Market Intervention Agency is to procure oils directly from the open market and oilseeds thro-